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Tokawana Fire Grows To 1,500 Acres Near Meeks Cabin Reservoir

- by [News Desk](#)
- July 28, 2016 at 7:28 pm



UPDATE – 8:08 p.m. July 28th — The Bureau of Land Management High Desert District, Kemmerer Field Office, in coordination with Uinta County, Wyoming State Forestry, and Wasatch Cache Forest Service, is fighting a wildfire near Meeks Cabin Reservoir, which has burned an estimated 1,500 acres.

The public is urged to use caution or avoid the area since fire behavior can change and fire spread is unpredictable if high winds develop. Highways 271 and 410 are closed for fire traffic and smoky conditions. Evacuations at the Uinta County Youth Camp are currently in place. The cause of the wildfire is unknown and under investigation at this time. Fire investigators are on scene. If anyone has any information please contact the BLM Assistant Fire Management Officer, Kevin Cahill, at [307-352-0236](tel:307-352-0236).

The fire is burning in heavy timber, grass, and sagebrush and is heading East in direction.

Firefighting resources include: Air Attack, Heavy Air Tankers, Single Engine Air Tankers, Helicopters, multiple engines, Type 2 hand crews, Type 1 Hotshot crews and multiple overhead. Type 2 Incident Management Team requested.

Tokawana Fire Burning Near Wyoming/Utah Border

UINTA COUNTY — A wildfire is burning in Uinta County, the blaze is called the Tokawana fire it is visible from Interstate 80 and according to some reports is near the Meeks Cabin area on the Wyoming side of the border.

An expert eyewitness traveling on the interstate said that the smoke column is showing some black which indicates it is in heavy fuel. They also reported a second smoke column to the southwest.

The report was sent from the top of the fist of the Three Sisters on I-80.

We have contacted the BLM which is the lead agency on the fire and will update with additional information as it is available.

<http://sweetwaternow.com/tokawana-fire-burning-near-wyomingutah-border/>

Tokewanna Fire Update

- by [News Desk](#)
- July 30, 2016 at 6:09 pm



UINTA COUNTY — The Tokewanna Fire is burning in grasses, mixed conifer timber stands, pine beetle weakened trees, and heavy dead and down fuels 15 miles south of Mountain View, Wyoming.

Extreme fire behavior with long-range spotting has been observed in areas of the fire.

While ensuring firefighter and public safety, crews are constructing direct hand and bulldozer lines along the southwest, west, and northwest perimeters of the Tokewanna Fire.

Supported by aviation resources, crews are working to build direct and indirect fireline along the northern and southern perimeters of the fire heading east from County Road 271.

The Tokewanna Fire is being managed as a full-suppression fire, has burned 1252 acres, and destroyed eight structures. The Tokewanna Fire is five percent contained and burning predominantly on private lands. Fire investigators have arrived and are currently investigating the cause of the fire. One firefighter was injured on July 29, 2016, transported to a hospital in Salt Lake City, and is in stable condition.

At 6:00 a.m. on July 30, 2016 the Rocky Mountain Incident Management Team Black assumed command of the Tokewanna Fire.

There is a community meeting scheduled for 7:00 p.m. at the Mountain View High School, Mountain View,

<http://sweetwaternow.com/tokewanna-fire-update/>

July 31st Tokewanna Fire Update

- by [News Desk](#)
- July 31, 2016 at 12:16 pm



UINTA COUNTY — Over 230 people attended the Tokewanna Fire community meeting at the Mountain View High School last night. The community expressed strong support for the firefighters currently working the fire and for the local firefighters and departments who were instrumental in protecting values at risk during initial attack.

The Tokewanna Fire continues to burn in areas severely impacted by the mountain pine beetle raising the risk of long-range spotting. Evacuations in the Tokewanna subdivision, Uinta County Youth Camp, Aspen Springs, Meeks Ridge, the Blacks Fork River Estates, and cabins in the surrounding areas remain in place.

Today, firefighters will continue to protect the numerous values at risk in and around the Tokewanna Fire area. Fuels remain dry despite having received some rain over the fire yesterday.

With warm temperatures, relative humidity values around 20%, and the possibility of isolated thunderstorms to the south, which produce outflow winds, are a concern for firefighters working to improve hand and dozer lines in the Tokewanna subdivision and areas to the north of the Uinta County Youth Camp.

Hand and bulldozer lines will continue to be improved and extended on the northern and southern perimeters of the fire. Firefighters working to prevent further spread of the fire to the east will construct direct and indirect fireline utilizing heavy equipment. Aviation resources will continue to check fire spread to the north and east. The Tokewanna Fire is being managed as a full suppression fire.

Due to ongoing fire operations, visitors to the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest and the numerous other recreation and historical sites around the Tokewanna Fire area are encouraged to

use caution when driving. County Road 271 is closed between Blue Heron Road and the Utah state line. County Road 410 is open. The Forest Service gate at County Road 279 is closed at Cold Springs Road. There is a soft closure of Forest Service Road (FSR) 0-58 to the junction of FSR O-73.

Fire Statistics:

Start Date: July 28, 2016, approximately at 3:00 p.m.

Size: 1252 acres, predominantly on private land

Containment: 5%

Location: 15 miles south of Mountain View, Wyoming

Cause: Under investigation

Total Personnel: 286

<http://sweetwaternow.com/july-31st-tokewanna-fire-update/>

Aug. 1 Tokewanna Fire Update

- by [News Desk](#)
- August 1, 2016 at 9:44 am



UINTA COUNTY – Nearly 500 firefighters are working the Tokewanna Fire, which has been burning since July 28, 2016.

Crews continue to make good progress in securing the area in and around structures in the Tokewanna and Blacks Fork River Estates areas. Firefighters observed single-tree torching and continued smoke from islands of burning vegetation in the area yesterday. Warm temperatures, low relative humidity and the possibility of thunderstorms around the Tokewanna Fire will bring the potential for increased fire activity in all areas of the fire today.

The Tokewanna Fire continues to move to the east where single- and group-tree torching and spotting outside hand and bulldozer lines has contributed to an uneven or 'dirty' burn in many areas. In order to limit spread to the east crews will construct both direct and indirect fireline and be supported by helicopters doing bucket drops of water to cool hot spots and keep the fire in check.

Firefighters, assisted by engines, will continue to improve existing firelines to protect the many values at risk on the southern and northern perimeters. The Tokewanna Fire is being managed as a full suppression fire.

At noon today, residents living to the north of the intersection of Blacksfork Drive and County Road 271 (Meeks Cabin Dam Road) and the intersection of Wapati Road and East Wapati Road, including East Wapati Road will be allowed to return to their homes.

This area includes the Meeks Ridge and Aspen Springs subdivisions and areas north of Cattle Guard 7. Residents may not have power when returning to these areas. The Uinta County Youth Camp, Tokewanna and Blacks Fork River Estates, and County Road 271 south to Meeks Cabin Dam remain closed. At

At 7 p.m. on Tuesday, August 2, 2016 there will be a community meeting at the Mountain View High School, 330 7th Street, Mountain View, Wyoming, 82939 to update and discuss the status of the Tokewanna Fire.

Fire Statistics

Start Date: July 28, 2016, approximately at 3:00 p.m.

Size: 1313 acres, predominantly on private land

Containment: 24%

Location: 15 miles south of Mountain View, Wyoming

Cause: Under investigation

Total Personnel: 490

<http://sweetwaternow.com/aug-1-tokewanna-fire-update/>

August 2nd Tokewanna Fire Update

- by News Desk
- August 2, 2016 at 9:59 am



UINTA COUNTY — Firefighters continued to make good progress on the Tokewanna Fire, which is burning 15 miles south of Mountain View, Wyoming.

Crews will continue to mop-up and remove hazard trees in and around structures in the Tokewanna Estates subdivision and will begin back-hauling firefighting equipment from the area.

Bridger Valley Electric Association will continue to assess repair needs in order to restore power to the area. Residents of the Meeks Ridge, Aspen Springs, and surrounding cabins returned home yesterday. Tokewanna Estates, Blacks Fork River Estates, and the Uinta County Youth Camp remain under evacuation. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

An infrared flight was flown over the fire yesterday afternoon and identified over 100 spot fires burning along the main eastern and southeastern perimeters of the Tokewanna Fire.

Crews in these areas will continue to install direct and indirect fireline around these spot fires in order to prevent their growth and spread of the fire.

Aviation resources were an important part in yesterday's firefighting activities, dropping over 130,000 gallons of water, and will continue to support containment efforts by firefighters today.

Firefighters and engines will also support suppression activities and have put in over 200,000 feet of hose in and around the fire perimeter. Warm weather, low relative humidity, and isolated

thunderstorms are forecasted today for the Tokewanna Fire area, creating potentially critical fire weather conditions.

Firefighter and public safety remain a top priority and inform all strategies and tactics in fighting the Tokewanna Fire.

At 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 2, 2016 there will be a community meeting at the Mountain View High School, 330 7th Street, Mountain View, Wyoming, 82939 to update and discuss the status of the Tokewanna Fire.

<http://sweetwaternow.com/august-2nd-tokewanna-fire-update/>

Tokewanna Fire Update: Crews Achieve 100 Percent Containment

- by [News Desk](#)
- August 8, 2016 at 9:56 am



UINTA COUNTY — The Tokewanna Fire was 100% contained as of 6 p.m. Saturday August 6th, after burning 1287 acres of predominately private lands within Uinta County. The fire was discovered on July 28, 2016 and over 500 firefighters worked to suppress it. Fire activity is now minimal, and firefighters have continued to secure the line and put out hot spots within the fire.

Yesterday fire crews spent the day searching for and mopping up the remaining hot spots that were identified through an enhanced infrared flight. This mission helped to bring the containment level to 100%. Today crews will continue to address other heat as necessary, and fall any hazard trees that are considered a risk to roadways.

Tomorrow, August 8th, the fire will transition to a local Type 4 incident commander at 7:00 a.m. These local resources will patrol until control can be obtained. There is no estimated date of control, and the cause of the fire is still under investigation at this time.

The public is encouraged to avoid the area of Meeks Cabin Dam as many hazards are still present. Fire patrol will continue along roads and in the fire area, and hazard trees pose serious risk to people around them. The Tokewanna Incident Command Post is going to remain stationed at the dam through Monday, so firefighters and crews appreciate your continued respect of their work and camp space.

Although there are no fire restrictions currently in place, in Uinta County and much of southwestern Wyoming grasses and other vegetation are critically dry. Extreme caution is urged when starting and putting out a camp fire on public or private lands.